



## 2018 Winter Travel League - Week # 1

The 2018 Winter Travel League got off to one of its biggest starts ever with 39 shooters joining the league today at the Portville Conservation Club. This was all despite the fact that it was 0 degrees at 9 AM in the morning. As always, the shoot went both safely and very efficiently as 17 squads took part in under four hours. Often overlooked is the amount of work that goes into registering shooters in our league sign-ups at the first shoot of the year. Portville does an excellent job at that as well as keeping the shoots running non-stop. Our goal as a league is to safely run five squads per hour; that's one every 12 minutes. At the two-trap field clubs, we shoot for eight squads per hour. Please do all you can by being on time for your squad to help them attain those benchmarks. The guys work hard to give you a good, safe, fun trap shoot each and every week. Also remember that your respective clubs are challenged to put on a quality trap shoot when your turn comes.

With the temperature right around 0, it was very cold and only warmed up to 10 degrees by the end of the shoot. Portville's Randy Hill was high gun for those shooting 50 targets with his 49 x 50. He was closely followed by Jim Green (welcome aboard) from Shinglehouse with a 47, and Owen Neudeck (welcome aboard) from Richburg, Terry Neudeck from Portville (yep – it's his uncle), and Kody Beil from Cuba (welcome back), all with 45 apiece. There were just two scores of 25-straight today. Owen Neudeck (not Terry) broke his first ever 25-straight in that frigid weather in his last round. Randy Hill had the other, also in his final round of shooting. Mark Pangburn Jr. from Richburg broke the **green bird**, winning \$3. The 50/50 drawing took in \$39. In the first round of the league half the money goes to the league and the winner gets the other half. Yours truly won that, (*thanks Bobbie Jo!*), but split it between the league and the BRCS youth trap team. Those 50/50 drawings we run each week are important to us more so than in the past to help offset the rising cost of meat (think steak). Please do your part to help support this and drop a buck or two in there. Breakfast was served today

and was excellent as usual, thanks to Mike Lippert and company. The traveling, winter trap league moves to the Richburg Rod & Gun Club next Sunday at 9 AM where breakfast will once again be served as league shooting continues.

Keeping the league afloat during continuing slower economic times is a challenge, especially here in New York State. Your commitment to supporting the league is what allows us to continue to do what we all enjoy. We have ladies shooting, we have kids shooting, we have seniors shooting, and everything in between. If you are new to our league, welcome aboard. Enjoy, but please think safety at all times; safety involving not only when shooting, but also driving to and from. (The roads today weren't the best).

Several other area shooters have indicated their interest in joining or rejoining the league this year. It's a good way to fight cabin fever, plus an awful lot of fun so come out and shoot. New, returning, and any other prospective trap shooters can join any time up to the beginning of the second round on February 11<sup>th</sup> in Portville to shoot in the league for \$15.

Please print legibly when you join, sign up to shoot, or fill out parental permission sheets if under 18 years of age. **A valid, legible e-mail address must be supplied in order to receive scores and highlights from the league.** Our league shoots at five different clubs Sunday mornings through the end of March. A 50-bird trophy shoot, steak dinner, and awards ceremony will be held at the Portville Conservation Club, (the league's host this year), on Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>. You must shoot the entire 500 birds to be eligible for the 50-bird trophy shoot. Shooters will be broken into three classes (A, B, & C) which are determined by their season-long average over the 500 targets. Whether you complete the entire 500-bird league or not you'll still get a steak dinner for your 15 bucks. Extra guest steak dinners will again be just \$8 each.

Be safe & let's keep shooting affordable. Again, welcome to the league. See you Sunday in Richburg and please bring some friends...

*Jon Reitz*

**Host club:** Portville 2018, Richburg 2019, Genesee Valley 2020, Cuba 2021 & Olean 2022